WEIRD VAMPIRE TALES

02950 APR 1980 $1.95

ENTER THE BLOODY WORLD WHERE FANGED HORROR DRIPS A GLISTENING RED

THE EVIL THING THAT CRIED FOR BLOOD

VAMPIRE

SHOCKING AND GROTESQUE

The RATS are COMING!

AN EXPLOSION OF LOATHSOME HORROR IN

CREATURES

MONSTER

HORROR

MASK

WEIRD VAMPIRE TALES

APRIL 1980

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WHEN THEY MEET THE VAMPIRE
MOST OF US, WHO WALK IN BRIGHT SUNSHINE OF LIFE SUSPECT NOTHING OF THE HORRORS THAT LIE JUST BEYOND THE EDGE OF DARKNESS, WHERE FETID MISTS HANG LIKE SHROUDS FOR DAMNED SOULS, AND DEMONS MOAN IN THE ETERNAL NIGHT! BUT FOR THOSE WHO HAVE MADE THE TERRIBLE JOURNEY INTO THE UNKNOWN, THERE IS ONLY EVERLASTING TERROR!
DOCTOR JOHN AMES, PSYCHIATRIST, IS ABOUT TO INTERVIEW A NEW PATIENT...
MRS. HODGE BEGINS HER TREATMENT TODAY NURSE! SHOW HER IN AS SOON AS SHE ARRIVES!
SHE'S HERE NOW, DOCTOR!
MACABRO
DID YOU KNOW THAT SHE'S DORIS HODGE, THE FAMOUS MOVIE STAR! I'VE SEEN HER IN A LOT OF PICTURES!
YES, I KNOW! BUT SHOW HER IN, PLEASE!
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SO... HELLO, MRS. HODGE! COME IN, PLEASE! JUST MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE!
THANK YOU, DOCTER! I DO HOPE YOU CAN HELP ME!
IT TOOK A LOT OF COURAGE TO COME HERE, DOCTOR! I HAD GREAT DIFFICULTY IN TAKING THIS STEP!
SUPPOSE YOU TELL ME ABOUT IT!
WELL, AS YOU MAY KNOW, I AM IN PICTURES! AND LATELY- THEY SEEM TO LET ME PLAY NOTHING BUT HORROR ROLES! I'VE BEEN A VAMPIRE IN MY FIVE PICTURES AND...
SUDDENLY...
GREAT SCOTT- Y-YOU'RE CHANGING...
YES-NOW YOU SEE! I KEEP CHANGING INTO A (GASP) VAMPIRE!
I WANT BLOOD! I MUST HAVE IT OR I'LL GO MAD! ARRRGGG--
MRS. HODGE! YOU- SHE'S FAINTING, PASSING OUT!
GOOD GRIEF- SHE'S COMING AFTER ME!
I- I WANT UHHHHHHHH-

SHE'S OUT COLD! A VERY STRANGE CASE INDEED-I'D CALL IT HYPER-INDUCED VAMPIRISM! PROBABLY NOT A TRUE VAMPIRE, BUT THE MOVIE ROLLS SHE PLAYS BRING THEM TO THE SURFACE!

I-WHERE-- IT-IT HAPPENED AGAIN!
YES, MRS. HODGE, BUT DON'T WORRY! I THINK I CAN HELP YOU!

HELP ME? OH, HOW I HOPE SO! IT'S BEEN SO HORRIBLE-
BUT SUCH THINGS CAN BE CURED!

BUT THE CURE WILL BE LONG AND EXPENSIVE! I'M GOING TO TAKE YOU TO A PRIVATE SANITARIUM OF MINE!

LATE THAT NIGHT...
NOT MUCH FARTHER NOW, MRS. HODGE! JUST OVER THE CREST THERE!
OHH- IT'S SO DARK AND LONELY HERE! I'M A LITTLE FRIGHTENED!

NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF! SEE, THERE AHEAD! THAT'S MY PLACE!
IT LOOKS SO GLOOMY!

I-I DON'T THINK I'M GOING TO LIKE IT HERE! BETTER GO BACK...
NONSENSE, MRS. HODGE! YOU'RE IN A BAD WAY, YOU KNOW! YOU NEED TREATMENT AT ONCE!

THE DOOR SLOWLY CREAKS OPEN...
GOOD EVENING, DOCTOR! I SEE WE HAVE ANOTHER -PATIENT!
YES, IGOR! THIS IS MRS. HODGE! SHOW HER TO HER ROOM!
UGHHH- WHAT A MONSTER! WHAT SORT OF A PLACE IS THIS?
GOOD NIGHT, MRS. HODGE! SEE YOU IN THE MORNING!
THIS WAY, PLEASE! YOU'RE ON THE TOP FLOOR!
GOOD N-NIGHT DOCTOR!
LATER, AS THE DOCTOR SITS IN HIS STUDY...
SEE HER IN THE MORNING, EH? HAH-HAH! UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS I'LL SEE HER LONG BEFORE, MORNING!
GET HER ALL FIXED UP, IGOR?
YES DOCTOR, JUST AS YOU IN-STRUCTED! THE HOUSE IS EMPTY!
GOOD! GO TO BED AND STAY THERE! NO MATTER WHAT YOU HEAR, STAY IN YOUR ROOM!
YES, DOCTOR! GOOD NIGHT!
WELL, IT SHOULDN'T BE LONG NOW! WITH HER TENDENCIES, AND IN THIS ATMOSPHERE OF GLOOM, SHE SHOULD BE CHANGING INTO A VAMPIRE ANY MOMENT!

THE MOMENTS SLIDE PAST AND THE DOCTOR WAITS AND AND LISTENS! THEN...
AHH-AT LAST! I THINK I HEAR HER ON THE STAIRS!
COME IN MRS. HODGE! I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU FOR AN HOUR! NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE...
AGRRRR-AHHHHHHH- I'LL KILL YOU! I-WANT-YOUR-
NOT SO FAST, MY DEAR! I KNOW WHAT YOU WANT, EXACTLY, BUT YOU WON'T GET IT!
I'LL GET IT TOO! YOU WON'T ESCAPE ME THIS TIME!
THEN COME CLOSER-
HA-HAH-FOOL! YOU DON'T EVEN STRUGGLE! YOU KNOW IT'S USELESS!
ALL WRONG! YOU ARE NOT A REAL VAMPIRE!
WHILE I AM A REAL VAMPIRE! AND SO I'M-THE STRONGER! HA-HAH-HAH! NOW WHO WINS? HEE-HEE-HEE...
-OH, NO...
OH, YES! NO-HO-HO! AND NOW, MY DEAR...
EEEEEEKKK-OHHHHHH-AHHHHHH-
THE END

PEOPLE SPEAK ABOUT THE HORROR OF VAMPIRES....OF WEREWOLVES....OF ASSORTED OCCULT PHENOMENA. BUT THERE IS NOTHING SO BLOOD-CURDLING, SO TERRIFYING AS THE HORROR OF REVENGE!!....

THE HEAD SHRINKERS

I'VE CALLED THE GENTLEMAN WITH TREASURE ON THE BRAIN, CLARK TRASK. HE WAS WILLIAMS' ASSOCIATE, AND THE MAN WITH THE CASH. THE GIRL IS WILLIAMS' DAUGHTER, GINNY AND MY FIANCE!

CLARK...I WARN YOU! NO VIOLENCE OR OUTWARD SEARCH FOR GOLD ON THIS TRIP!

MAJOR WILLIAMS, I'M AFRAID YOU CAN'T DEMAND *ANYTHING!* REMEMBER WHO FINANCES YOUR TRIPS!

THE ARROGANT DEVIL! IF GINNY AND HER FATHER WEREN'T SO MUCH IN DEBT TO HIM FOR HIS BACKING, I'D THRASH HIM TO WITHIN AN INCH OF HIS LIFE!

THAT'S HOW IT STARTED. THE WEEKS FLEW AFTER THAT AND WE WERE SOON BREATHING THE THICK HORRID AIR OF THE TROPICS!

JUAN... MALA NEETA O'CHEN BATA! NO KILL HERE!

WHAT'S HE SAYING?

HE'S EXPLAINING THAT WE'VE COME TO THE HEAD-HUNTERS COUNTRY! FROM NOW ON NO SHOOTING!

BUT THEN A STROKE OF BAD LUCK TORE OUT OF THE JUNGLE UNDERBRUSH...

WHAT A MEAL HE'S GOING TO MAKE FOR MY FIRE!

NO! TRASK! DON'T!!

SHUT UP, STEVENS! I DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER TO YOU OR ANYONE!

WE STOOD THERE PARALYZED AS THE SHOT RANG OUT!

IT'S DEAD, ALL RIGHT! TRASK, YOU DID THIS DELIBERATELY!

OH.... HOW COULD YOU!

SIMPLY BECAUSE I REFUSE TO BE DICTATED TO!

BUT NO SOONER WERE THOSE WORDS OUT OF HIS MOUTH WHEN THE JUNGLE SEEMED TO RUSTLE A WARNING...

WHAT'S THAT?

THEN THE JUNGLE BECAME A LAUNCHER FOR DEATH!

THE WORLD STOPPED MOVING FOR US AS WE WAITED...THEN THE HORROR BURST FORTH!

I-I'LL KILL THEM!

PUT DOWN YOUR RIFLE, TRASK! THEY SPARED US FOR SOME REASON!

BATAA-YAA.... NAOO-TACHA!

HE WANTS US TO COME WITH HIM TO HIS VILLAGE! WE HAVE NO CHOICE!

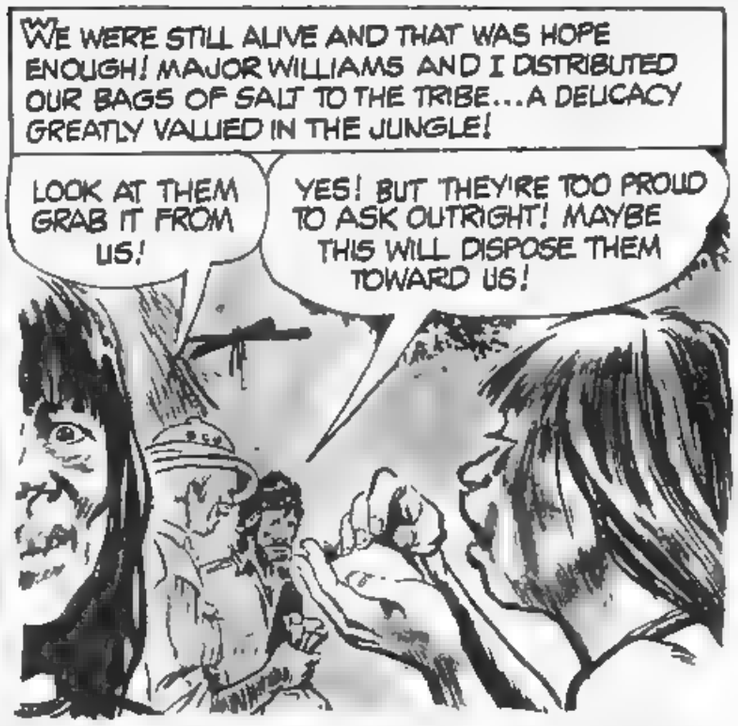
FOR WHAT SEEMED LIKE HOURS WE WERE PULLED AND PUSHED INTO THE HEADHUNTERS' VILLAGE....A SIGHT BEYOND COMPARE! IT WAS A GIANT TREASURE!

WHY HAVE YOU TRESPASSED OUR GROUNDS, WHITE MAN?

HE SPEAKS *ENGLISH!*

YES! I SPEAK ENGLISH! YOU HAVE KILLED ONE OF OUR GODS! YOU HAVE VIOLATED OUR *TABU*...AND THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS TO VIOLATORS!

OUR KING MUST DECIDE WHAT IS TO BE DONE WITH YOU!
WHICH MEANS WE WON'T DIE! THEY'D HAVE KILLED US LONG AGO! LOOK AT THAT GOLD IDOL! IT'S WORTH A FORTUNE!


WE WERE STILL ALIVE AND THAT WAS HOPE ENOUGH! MAJOR WILLIAMS AND I DISTRIBUTED OUR BAGS OF SALT TO THE TRIBE...A DELICACY GREATLY VALUED IN THE JUNGLE!
LOOK AT THEM GRAB IT FROM US!
YES! BUT THEY'RE TOO PROUD TO ASK OUTRIGHT! MAYBE THIS WILL DISPOSE THEM TOWARD US!

BUT WHATEVER KINDNESS THEY MIGHT HAVE FELT FOR US WAS SHATTERED FOREVER THAT HORRIBLE NIGHT. WE FROZE AS WILD SHRIEKS OF TERROR MOVED CLOSER TO OUR HUT!
OH, VAN...WHAT'S HAPPENED?

THEY TORE INTO THE HUT, AND BEFORE WE KNEW WHAT WAS HAPPENING...
DIE! AIEEEEE!

OH NO...NO! FATHER!
AIEEEEE!

THE KING HOLDS MY SPEAR-HAND! ONE OF YOUR NUMBER HAS KILLED HIS SON, OUR YOUNG KING-TO-BE! HE HAS ALSO STOLEN OUR VILLAGE GOD! FOR THAT YOU SHALL DIE HORRIBLY!
NO! NO!
EASY, DARLING, EASY!

THEY TIED US TO STAKES... THEY LIT A FIRE FOR SLOW TORTURE! WE KNEW IT WAS TRASK WHO HAD LOOTED, KILLED AND LEFT US TO OUR FATES.

BUT ALL THAT WAS IN THE PAST...NOW WE JUST CLUNG TO OUR LAST MOMENTS...

AEEEEE!!!! THEY SPEAK OUT! HA, HA!

THEN SUDDENLY THE DRUMS STOPPED...

UGH... AMO-POA AMPA!

OUR KING ORDERS YOU FREED! HE SAY YOU CANNOT BE PUNISHED FOR A CRIME YOU DID NOT DO!

YOU DON'T QUESTION A MIRACLE....YOU ACCEPT IT AND SQUEEZE EVERY OUNCE OF HOPE OUT OF IT...

THANKS! I'D BE GLAD TO DO THE SAME FOR YOU SOME DAY!

SO BEGAN THE JOURNEY BACK TO CIVILIZATION--
--HOW LONG WE TRAVELED I SHALL NEVER KNOW..
BUT AT LAST WE SIGHTED OUR BOAT!!

GO!

YOU CAN BET YOUR LIFE WE WILL!

WE MANAGED TO GET ON THE DECK OF THE DIRTY STEAMER AND TOOK A LAST LOOK AT THE HORRID SHORE...

IT'S BEEN A NIGHTMARE!

DON'T THINK ABOUT IT DARLING! I JUST WONDER WHY THEY LET *US* FREE!

THEN, JUST AS WE WERE ABOUT TO TURN AWAY, A WARRIOR THREW A SMALL OBJECT AT OUR FEET...

GOOD LORD!

EEEEEEEEE!

NOW I KNEW WHY WE HAD BEEN SPARED. JUNGLE JUSTICE IS STRANGE....BUT EXACT! FOR THERE WAS CLARK TRASK'S SHRUNKEN HEAD IN ALL ITS ARROGANT, LEERING EVIL...

THE END

THE TIME... ANCIENT ENGLAND DURING THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY. THE PLACE... A CASTLE SOMEWHERE NEAR LONDON. THE REASON ---

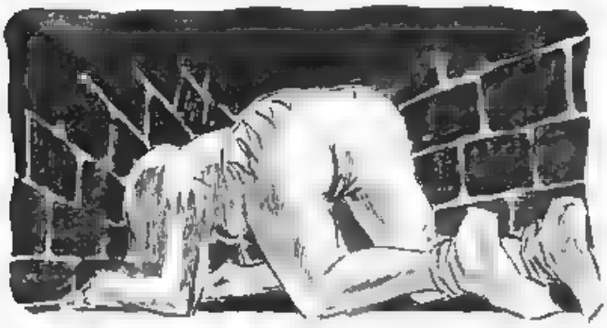
THE RACK

YOU HEARD HIM! THEY'LL BE BACK... BACK TO TORTURE YOU!
CAN'T... TALK... GOT... TO ESCAPE...
LOOK... THE DOOR! THEY FORGOT TO CLOSE IT... THERE'S YOUR ESCAPE!
C'MON, YOU CAN MAKE IT! ANYTHING IS BETTER THAN MORE... TORTURE! TRY-- TRY-- TRY!
DON'T STOP NOW... YOU'VE MADE IT! DON'T STOP!
GO AHEAD... OPEN IT! YOU'VE GOT NOTHING TO LOSE... THEY'LL ONLY TORTURE YOU IF YOU STAY IN THE CELL!
THAT'S IT! BUT DON'T STOP NOW... KEEP GOING... KEEP GOING!

THAT'S WHERE YOU HAVE TO GO... ANY PLACE BUT THE **TORTURE** CHAMBER!

THE DOOR! THAT'S WHERE YOU'VE GOT TO GO...THAT'S WHERE **FREEDOM** LIES...

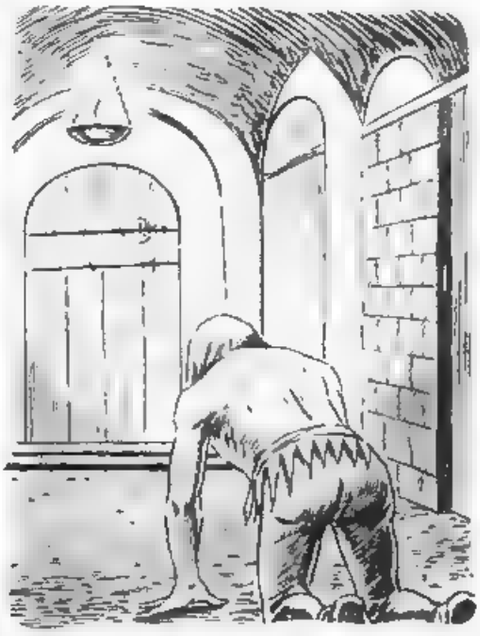
WHAT'S THAT? SOMEONE'S COMING! **HIDE!** DON'T LET THEM FIND YOU NOW! YOU'VE COME TO FAR NOW...



DON'T BREATHE! THEY DIDN'T SEE YOU...HAVE FAITH... **HAVE FAITH!**

YOU MADE IT...YOU MADE IT! THEY DIDN'T SEE YOU! BUT YOU CAN'T STAY HERE...THE DOOR...DON'T FORGET THE DOOR...TO **FREEDOM!**

THAT'S IT...NOT TOO MUCH FURTHER NOW...JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE...



THEY'RE COMING BACK! **HIDE!** YOU'VE GOT TO HIDE! DON'T LET THEM CATCH YOU NOW! NOT WHEN **FREEDOM** IS SO CLOSE!

BUT YOU HAVE BEEN TORTURED... MAYBE NOT BY MACHINES, BUT BY SOMETHING FAR MORE POWERFUL... YOUR OWN MIND!

The End

THE RATS ARE COMING

LONG AGO MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF CREATURES RULED THE EARTH BEFORE MAN'S INTELLIGENCE DEVELOPED AND MADE HIM SUPREME BUT IS MAN INVINCIBLE? SUPPOSE SOME OTHER CREATURE DEVELOPED A SIMILAR INTELLIGENCE! PERHAPS MANKIND WOULD FALL, AND THEN... WHO WOULD INHERIT THE EARTH?

IN THE WAR OFFICE OF A SMALL EUROPEAN COUNTRY...

HE SAYS, GENERAL, THAT HE HAS A FORMULA THAT CAN - HA HA - DOUBLE THE INTELLIGENCE OF ANY LIVING CREATURE. HA HA!

IS THIS A JOKE, PROFESSOR MOLEK?

IT'S TRUE! IT CAN BE PUT INTO FOOD, INJECTED... DON'T LAUGH, YOU FOOL!

HOW DARE YOU! GET OUT OF MY OFFICE, YOU LITTLE RAT OF A MAN!

HA HA! FANTASTIC, HA HA!

ALRIGHT, BUT YOU'LL SEE, YOU'LL SEE!

A MOMENT LATER...

WHAT DID THEY SAY, FATHER? DID THEY...

PLEASE LET ME ALONE. I'M GOING FOR A WALK BY MYSELF!

POOR FATHER, THEY MUST HAVE LAUGHED AT HIM AGAIN!
DON'T WORRY, ANNA DARLING! HE'LL BE ALRIGHT WHEN HE GETS OVER FEELING ANGRY.
IF ONLY I HAD SOMETHING TO EXPERIMENT ON, I'D AAAAH!
THE PROFESSOR IS UNHURT, BUT...
UGH! I MUST BE IN THE SEWERS. I'LL... GOOD HEAVENS!!!
BUT AS PROFESSOR MOLEK STUMBLED ALONG IN A BLIND RAGE...
IDIOTS! MORONS! I'LL SHOW THEM! SOMEDAY...
INTELLIGENT! OF COURSE, ONE OF THE MOST INTELLIGENT SPECIES ON EARTH! AND THEY BREED LIKE RABBITS... PERFECT TO TEST MY FORMULA...
RATS, THOUSANDS OF THEM! AND YET THEY SEEM FRIENDLY ENOUGH! HA! WHY SHOULDN'T THEY? DON'T I LOOK LIKE THEM? INTELLIGENT TOO, AND...
HA HA! I'LL BE BACK, MY FRIENDS, WITH PLENTY OF VERY SPECIAL FOOD FOR YOU! AND IN A LITTLE WHILE WE'LL SHOW THOSE STUPID HUMANS A THING OR TWO... HA! HA! HA!

ONE YEAR LATER...
FATHER, I WANT YOU TO BE THE FIRST TO KNOW! KURT AND I ARE GETTING MARRIED!
DON'T BOTHER ME WITH TRIFLES! I HAVE GREAT THINGS TO DO TODAY!
OH, KURT, WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO MY FATHER? HE'S BEEN SO STRANGE THE PAST YEAR!
I KNOW. I WISH I COULD FIND OUT WHAT HE'S DOING!
MY FRIENDS. TODAY IS THE DAY. REMEMBER WHAT I'VE TOLD YOU...
IF THEY ONLY KNEW! TEN MINUTES LATER MOLEK STANDS IN THE CAVERNOUS SEWER AND...
YOUR BROTHERS ALREADY RULE PART OF THE EARTH THAT WAS MANS WHO INHABITS ANCIENT BABYLON? YOU, THE RATS! WHO OWNS THE CRUMBLED CITIES OF EGYPT? YOU! AND SOON YOU WILL RULE ALL THE EARTH!
DON'T FORGET THE PLAN. WE DISPOSE OF THE POLICE FIRST AND THE REST WILL WILL BE HELPLESS NOW GO AND CONQUER THE EARTH!
THAT NIGHT THE RATS PUT MOLEKS CUNNING STRATEGY TO WORK...
HELP. THE RATS.. THEY'RE KILLING ME!
DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?
I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES. IT'S HANS AND HE'S COVERED WITH RATS!

EVERY POLICEMAN IN THE STREETS IS ATTACKED!
AAAAAGHH!
RATS! HUNDREDS OF THEM!
AND FINALLY THE RATS ATTACK AND DESTROY THE POLICE HEADQUARTERS ITSELF!
IT MUST BE A NIGHTMARE! IT CAN'T BE AAAGH!
THE CITY LEADERS CALL A COUNCIL OF WAR...
AND ARE MURDERED BEFORE A SINGLE ORDER IS GIVEN!
AAAGHH!
EEEAG!
I'VE SENT FOR THE ARMY. IN A FEW MINUTES THEY'LL BE...
LOOK!
A'IGH!
BY MORNING THE CITY IS A PANIC-STRICKEN SHAMBLES! REFUGEES CROWD THE STREETS, HEADED FOR THE HARBORS AND EVACUATION!
AT LAST THE ARMY ARRIVES TO FIND THE CITY STRANGELY QUIET, DESERTED. BUT...
WELL, WHERE ARE THE BLASTED RATS? JUST GIVE ME A CHANCE AT THEM WITH THIS FLAME-THROWER, I'LL...

OHH! GET THEM OFF ME!...
A SURPRISE ATTACK! THE FILTHY THINGS MUST BE HUMAN!
LOOKOUT! HERE THEY COME!
THE ARMY IS FORCED TO REGROUP IN THE CITY SQUARE, BUT THE WILY RATS GIVE THEM NO TIME TO RECOVER!
POOR FATHER, WHERE CAN HE BE?
STAY CLOSE TO ME, ANNA! DON'T LEAVE THE CAR!
SUDDENLY A WILD SAVAGE APPEARS AMONG THE RATS!
THE MACHINE GUN! CAPTURE THE GUN! THAT'S IT, MY BEAUTIES!
IN A MOMENT THE BATTLE IS ON...
I CAN'T FIRE! I'LL HIT MY OWN MEN!
THE HOSES, GIVE THEM THE HOSES!
BUT... BUT THEY'VE CUT OFF THE WATER! THEY'RE DEMONS!
USE YOUR WEIGHT TO BALANCE THE GUN! GOOD! YOUR STRENGTH IS IN YOUR NUMBERS AND YOUR BRAINS!
AND IN A MOMENT...
THEY KNOW HOW TO FIRE THE GUNS! THEY KNOW HOW! WE CAN'T FIGHT THEM!

THE RATS ARE ASSURED OF A BLOODY, GRUESOME VICTORY!
FATHER! FATHER!
THE RATS HAVE SPOTTED HER! GET OVER THERE QUICKLY, DRIVER!
THEY'RE ON THE RUN, MY BEAUTIES! PURSUE THEM! KILL EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM!
WE HAVE TIME TO MAKE THE LAST SHIP OUT OF THE HARBOR! HURRY!
FATHER! OH, NO!
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? YOUR FATHER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS WHOLE THING!
FIGHTING EVERY INCH OF THE WAY, THE SOLDIERS REACHED THE LAST REMAINING SHIP...
BUT I CAN'T LEAVE FATHER!
WE MUST, COME ON!
CAST OFF! THEY'RE TRYING TO BOARD THE SHIP!

AND AT LAST, THE FEW SURVIVORS OF THE NIGHTMARISH BATTLE SAIL FOR SAFETY!
WAIT! PLEASE... WAIT FOR ME! DON'T LEAVE... AGGAHH!
WE MADE IT... WE'RE SAFE!
ACROSS EUROPE A CONFERENCE OF TOP U.N. OFFICIALS COMES TO A DECISION...
GENTLEMEN, THERE CAN BE NO HESITATION. BEFORE THE PLAGUE OF RODENTS SPREADS OVER THE WHOLE WORLD, WE MUST USE OUR MOST POTENT WEAPON!
AGREED!
AGREED!
AGREED!
...AND AN HOUR LATER, A HUGE AMERICAN BOMBER TAKES TO THE AIR...
AND SOON IN THE RAT-RULED CITY...
LOOK, MY CONQUERORS! THEY ARE GOING TO TRY BOMBING US! HA! HA! HURRY TO YOUR DEEPEST HOLES!
BUT A MOMENT LATER, THE MOST STUPENDOUS MAN-MADE EXPLOSION IN HISTORY SHAKES THE VERY FOUNDATION OF THE EARTH...
FOOLS! MY LITTLE FRIENDS CAN WEATHER ANY ATTACK... AND COME FORTH AGAIN TO RULE THE WORLD!
HIGH ABOVE IN THE BOMBER...
WELL THAT SHOULD ANSWER THE QUESTION!
YEAH! WHAT'S LEFT OF A CITY AFTER YOU DROP A HYDROGEN BOMB ON IT... IS A HOLE IN THE GROUND!

AND ON THE SHIP..
GOOD HEAVENS! THEY USED THE HYDROGEN BOMB! WHAT A TERRIBLE WEAPON!
OH, KURT, FATHER... HE'S GONE!
AND SO IS OUR BEAUTIFUL CITY. BUT AT LEAST IT MUST HAVE KILLED EVERY ONE OF THOSE HORRIBLE INTELLIGENT RATS!
SO WE HAVE A THIEF AMONG US!
IN THE SHIPS GALLEY..
A THIEF, I TELL YOU! SOMEONE STOLE MY KEY, OPENED THIS ICEBOX, AND STOLE THE VERY BEST STEAK OF ALL! IF I CATCH THE MAN WHO DID THIS, I'LL...
BUT THE THIEF WAS NO MAN, CHEF! FOR DEEP DOWN IN THE SHIPS HOLD...
ALL SHIPS MUST REACH LAND SOMEWHERE. WHEN THIS ONE DOES, THE CUNNING, INTELLIGENT RATS WILL SCURRY ASHORE, AND WELL, WE ALL KNOW HOW FAST RATS MULTIPLY! AND SO THE QUESTION STILL REMAINS, WHO SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH AFTER ALL?
THE END

BUT YOU CAN'T BE REAL! I IMAGINED YOU MYSELF!
WHAT IS REAL, AND WHAT IS NOT? IF THE MINDS OF MEN BELIEVE A THING IS TRUE, DOES IT BECOME TRUE? PERHAPS IT'S BETTER NOT TO MEDDLE WITH THE UNKNOWN, AFTER ALL, OR YOU MIGHT FIND YOURSELF TRAPPED BY A...
MONSTER
MANY OF OUR ANCIENT RELIGIONS TEACH THAT IF A MAN BELIEVES A THING IS SO, IT IS SO! IF A MILLION PEOPLE BELIEVE THERE IS A MONSTER IN ZOO PARK...
HOW DO YOU MEAN, AHMED?
WARREN WINDELL, THE FAMOUS RADIO NEWSCASTER, DINES WITH TWO FRIENDS.
MY AUDIENCE WILL BELIEVE ANYTHING I SAY. IF I TELL THEM THERE'S A MONSTER IN ZOO PARK, THEY'LL SWALLOW IT. WANT TO BET A THOUSAND, SMITH?
I DON'T LIKE IT, WINDELL!
DON'T DO IT, WARREN. IT'S DANGEROUS!
IT MIGHT COME TRUE? BOSH! AND TO PROVE IT I'M GOING TO CREATE A MONSTER IN MY OWN IMAGINATION AND TELL THEM ABOUT IT... AND THEY'LL BELIEVE IT! HA! HA! HA!

AND SO LATER THAT NIGHT..
UNCONFIRMED REPORT OF MONSTER IN ZOO PARK, REPORTED AS HUMANOID, TWO FEET TALL WITH HEAD OF FROG AND TENTACLES INSTEAD OF ARMS. IT IS THOUGHT TO BE DANGEROUS...
THERE'S A MONSTER IN ZOO PARK!
HE'S ALWAYS RIGHT AFTER ALL!
FANTASTIC, BUT IF WENDELL SAYS SO...
AND IN THE CITY ROOM OF A BIG DAILY...
HERE WE GO! WANNA BET SOMEBODY'S SEEN THE MONSTER!
NO BET. WE'LL HAVE A HUNDRED CALLS BEFORE MORNING!
BY THE TIME THE LATE PAPERS HIT THE STREET, THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE BELIEVED IN THE MONSTER!
MONSTER IN THE PARK!
THIS IS JIM MILLIGAN!! A GUARD AT THE ZOO! I SEEN THE MONSTER!
THAT SO! WHAT DID IT LOOK LIKE?

"JUST LIKE WINDELL SAID HE LOOKS! I WAS GOING BY THE BIG CATS CAGE AND.."
HMMPH! SOMETHIN' MAKIN' THE CATS RESTLESS! BETTER CHECK!
"AND THEN I SAW HIM, TENTACLES AND FROGS HEAD AND ALL! MAN, DID I RUN! I'M LOCKED IN THE OFFICE NOW. SEND SOME COPS TO GET ME OUT, WILL YA?"
EEYOWW
NEXT MORNING IN WINDELL'S OFFICE.
WARREN, YOU MUST DENY THIS STORY! LOOK AT THE HEADLINE! "SIX FOOT MONSTER ATTACKS ZOO GUARD."
THAT GUARD JUST HAD AN OVERACTIVE IMAGINATION!
IF PEOPLE BELIEVE ANYTHING YOU SAY, WARREN..
BUT THAT NIGHT, OUTSIDE THE ZOO...
HELP! HELP! THE MONSTER! IT KILLED JERRY!
EASY, EASY BUDDY! TELL ME ALL ABOUT IT!
JERRY AND ME WERE WALKING ALONG WHEN ALL OF A SUDDEN.
WHY NOT TELL THEM IT WAS ALL A MISTAKE, AND END THIS NONSENSE!
THAT, THEY WON'T BELIEVE. THEY'D THINK I WAS LYING TO CALM THEM BUT DON'T WORRY, THE WHOLE THING WILL PETER OUT IN A COUPLE OF DAYS!

AAAA AAKK KKKK!
I...I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING! THE MONSTER WAS BIG...TOO BIG! I... I JUST RAN!
ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT YOU CRY BABIES! I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I'LL DO I'LL PROVE THAT THERE'S NO MONSTER! AFTER ALL, I CREATED HIM! HA! HA! HA!
IT'S TERRIBLE, WARREN! ONE GUARD MISSING THE REST REFUSE TO WORK. THE ANIMALS ARE STARVING!
AND NOW THEY BELIEVE THE MONSTER IS EIGHT FEET TALL!
NEXT DAY IN WINDELL'S OFFICE.
AND SO AT MIDNIGHT...
IT'S SILLY TO CARRY THIS RECORDER, SMITH. NOTHING'S GOING TO HAPPEN!
TAKE IT, WARREN, IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO PLAY BACK YEARS FROM NOW!
WARREN, I BEG YOU NOT TO GO!
MIDNIGHT, MR. WIDELL!
AND THAT AFTERNOON HEADLINES SCREAMED THE STARTLING NEWS..
THE Times
WINDELL DENIES EXISTENCE OF MONSTER
WILL WALK ACROSS THE PARK AT MIDNIGHT
SEE YOU ON THE OTHER SIDE IN HALF AN HOUR!
THE MIKE WILL PICK UP WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY TALK AS YOU WALK ALONG!
A BRAVE MAN.. BUT A FOOL TO MEDDLE WITH THE UNKNOWN!

TEN MINUTES LATER.
WELL, FOR THE SAKE OF THE RECORD, I'M NOW AT THE CAGES OF THE BIG CATS THEY DO SEEM RESTLESS, BUT THERE'S NO SIGN OF ANY MONSTER!
AS I'VE SAID... THERE ISN'T ANY.. AAAAAAAA!
ISN'T THERE, WINDELL?
N-NO...YOU CAN'T BE REAL!
TRUE! BUT A MILLION PEOPLE BELIEVE IN ME, WINDELL .. AND THEIR BELIEF GIVES ME LIFE AND GROWTH!
YOU . YOU CAN'T KILL ME! I CREATED YOU YOU MIGHT DIE TOO!
BUT AS SOON AS I SHOW MYSELF, PEOPLE WILL BELIEVE IN ME AGAIN! YOU CAN'T HURT ME, WINDELL.
I... I.
I KNOW WHAT YOU INTEND TO DO. YOU'RE GOING TO TELL PEOPLE I DON'T EXIST. BUT THAT CAN ONLY MAKE ME GROW SMALLER
AND THE MORE PEOPLE THAT BELIEVE, THE MORE I SHALL GROW.

MEANWHILE, A HUGE CROWD WAITS AT THE OTHERSIDE OF THE PARK...
IT'S OVER HALF AN HOUR! I'M BEGINNING TO WORRY!
I TOLD HIM NOT TO . HERE HE COMES NOW!
HERE, MR. WINDELL! SPEAK RIGHT INTO THE MICROPHONE, PLEASE!
HE MADE IT, NOTHING HAPPENED AFTER ALL!
NO? LOOK AT HIS FACE! COME ON, HE NEEDS HELP!
TA-TAKE ME HOME, WILL YOU?
RIGHT AWAY, WARREN!
I REPEAT. THERE IS NO MONSTER IN THE PARK! THERE IS NO MONSTER!
HOORAY! I TOLD YOU WENDELL WOULD FIND OUT!
ATTABOY, WENDELL! WE BELIEVE YOU!
...I THINK I'LL LIE DOWN FOR AWHILE. GOODBYE!
GOODBYE! WHAT CAN HAVE HAPPENED?
LOOK AHMED. THE RECORDER. MAYBE WE CAN FIND OUT!
A FEW MINUTES LATER
TELL US ABOUT IT, WARREN!
NO! NO, I'M SORRY, BUT IT'S BETTER IF I DON'T. YOU'VE BOTH BEEN KIND, BUT. .

A MOMENT LATER.
WELL, FOR THE SAKE OF THE RECORD, I'M NOW AT THE CAGES OF THE BIG CATS...
AT THAT MOMENT, AS TWO GUARDS RETURN TO WORK AT THE ZOO...
HEY! WHAT'S THAT GURGLING SOUND?
HARRY! SHINE YOUR LIGHT OVER HERE!
BANG
A SHOT! FROM WARRENS ROOM!
IT... IT'S THE MONSTER!
BUT HE... HE MUSTA SHRUNK OR SOMETHING! AND WHAT'S HE DOING?
HE... HE'S DISAPPEARING RIGHT IN FRONT OF OUR EYES!
WE MUST BE DREAMIN', HARRY!
LEMME OUTA HERE! LEMME OUT! I QUIT!
WAIT, HARRY! IT MUST'VE BEEN ONE OF THEM OPTICAL ILLUSIONS!

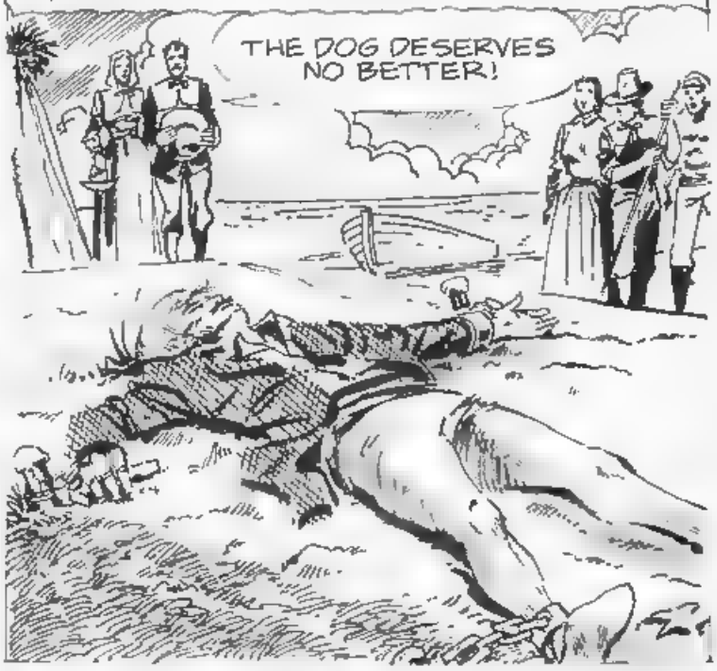
AND IN WENDELL'S HOME..
POOR WARREN. WHY WOULD HE KILL HIMSELF?
SMITH! WE LEFT THE RECORDER ON AND LISTEN...
I SHALL GROW AND GROW, BUT BEST OF ALL WINDELL IS THE FACT THAT AS LONG AS YOU LIVE...
...I SHALL LIVE! BECAUSE YOU OF ALL MEN MUST BELIEVE IN ME! GO NOW, WINDELL, AND A LONG LIFE TO YOU! HA! HA!
GOOD HEAVENS! THE THING WAS REAL!
WARREN CONVINCED EVERYONE THAT THERE WAS NO MONSTER... EVERYONE, BUT HIMSELF!
THEN HE SHOT HIMSELF BECAUSE...
...HIS BELIEF WAS KEEPING THE MONSTER ALIVE, SO HE DESTROYED HIMSELF TO RID THE WORLD OF IT!
BUT... BUT AHMED..
NOW WE BELIEVE IN IT! SUPPOSE...
DON'T SAY IT, YOU FOOL.. DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT!
THE END

GHOSTS THAT WALK FOREVER

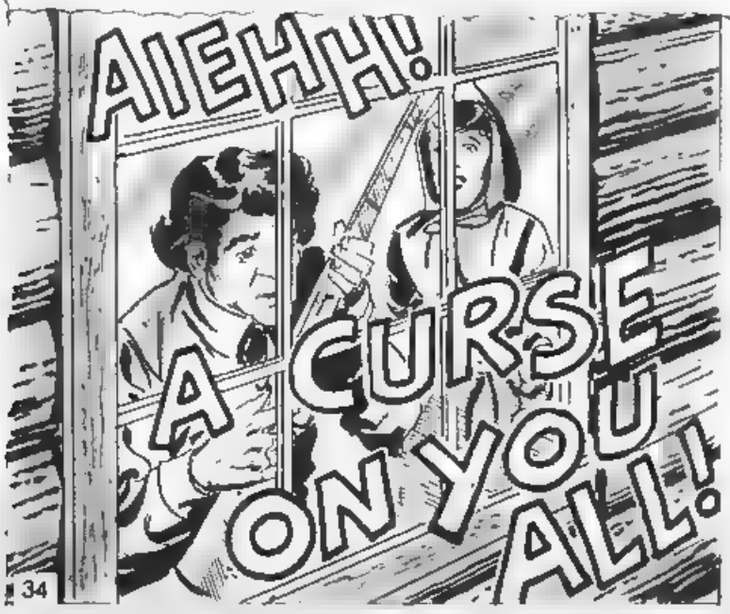
HARRY MAIN WAS HIS NAME WHEN HE WAS ALIVE, AND NO BLACKER A MAN DID LIVE! HE RAVAGED THE NEW ENGLAND COAST WITH HIS ACTS OF PIRACY!

THEN, MAIN TURNED TO BEING A WRECKER. HE BUILT FIRES ON THE SANDS TO DECOY VESSELS AMONG THE BREAKERS AND WRECK THEM.

BUT, ONE DAY, THE MURDERER WAS FINALLY CAUGHT AND CHAINED ON THE BEACH.



THAT NIGHT, A RIPPING STORM HIT THE NEW ENGLAND COAST. THE PEOPLE FROZE IN THEIR HOMES WHEN THEY HEARD MAIN'S SHOUTING RISE ABOVE THE HOWLING GALE



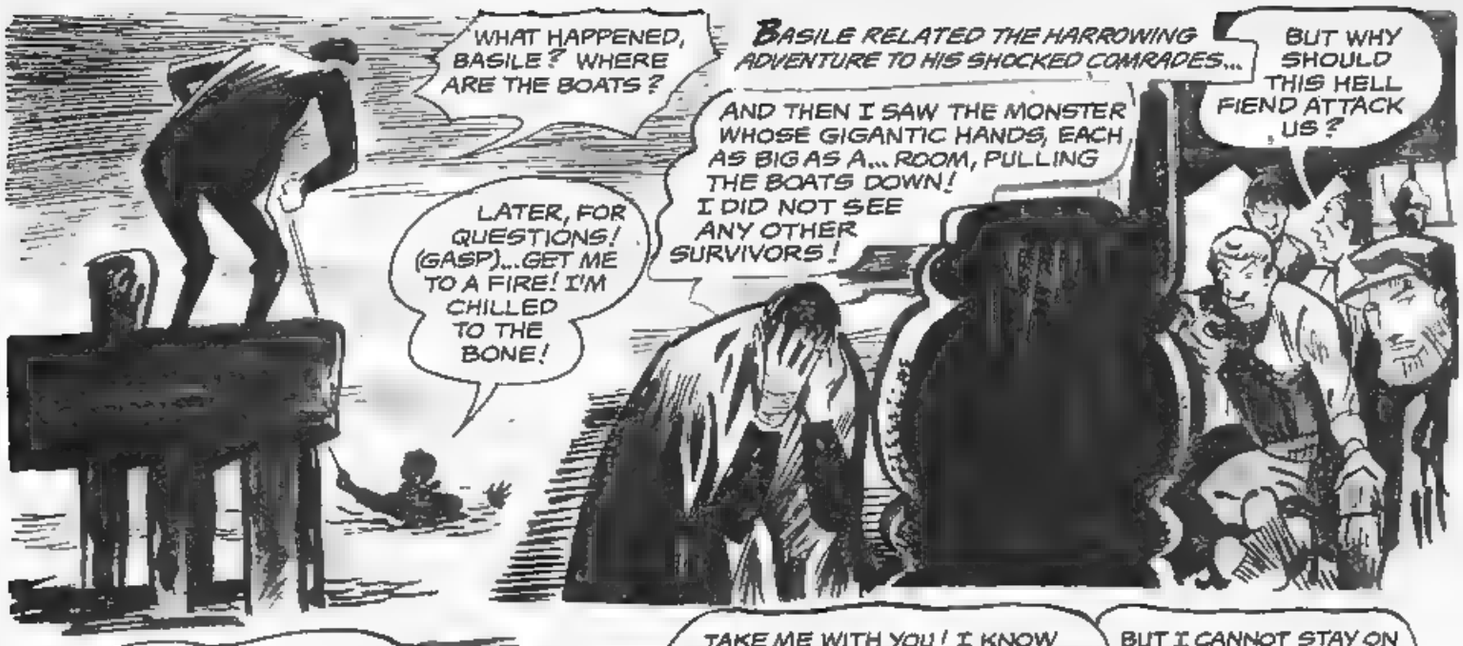
EVEN TODAY THERE ARE NEW ENGLANDERS WHO STILL CLAIM TO SEE HARRY MAIN'S GHOST WALKING THE SHORE... AND WHEN HE WALKS A STORM RAGES!

CREATURE OF EVIL!
THERE ARE THINGS BEYOND THE SCOPE OF SCIENCE! NO MAN KNOWS WHAT LEVIATHAN CREATURES HAUNT THE SEAS AT THEIR MURKY DEPTHS, SO THAT THE TALES TOLD BY ANCIENT MARINERS OF SEA DEVILS MAY BE TRUE! BUT THERE WERE SKEPTICS...
GO AHEAD, LAUGH, BUT FERNANDE TELLS YOU THERE ARE TERRORS IN THE SEA THAT CAN FREEZE YOUR BLOOD!
WHERE ARE THESE SEA MONSTERS YOU TALK ABOUT? BAH, THEY EXIST ONLY IN YOUR MIND!
YOU MAY NOT BELIEVE IN SEA MONSTERS, BUT LISTEN-- THE MOON HAS BLOOD ON IT TONIGHT! IT IS AN EVIL OMEN!
YOU SPEAK LIKE AN OLD WOMAN, FERNANDE! TOMORROW WILL BE PERFECT FOR FISHING!

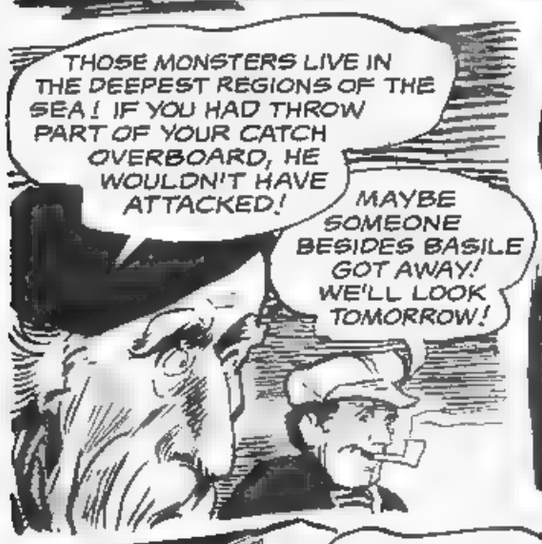
LIKE FERNANDE SAID, THE MOON IS SURROUNDED BY A BLOODY HALO! PERHAPS WE SHOULD LISTEN TO THE OLD ONE!
I TELL YOU, THE OLDER HE GETS, THE CRAZIER HE BECOMES!
DAWN CAME TO JEAN DES PRES, BRING A PERFECT DAY FOR FISHING--
WHAT A DAY! WE'LL COME HOME WITH A PRIZE CATCH! UP WITH THE ANCHOR, JACQUES!
HA, HA! DID YOU SEE FERNANDE AT THE WARF, WARNING US AGAIN!
ALL DAY THE FISH RAN HEAVY! THE NETS WERE EMPTIED AGAIN AND AGAIN...
THIS IS OUR LIMIT! LETS HEAD FOR HOME!
RIGHT! OURS IS THE LAST TO LEAVE THE BANKS!
RACING FOR HOME THE HEAVILY LADEN BOAT REACHED THE SHOAL INLET...
WAIT TILL FERNANDE SEES THIS CATCH! HIS EYES WILL POP!
HA, HA! THE MOON WAS RED! LET IT BE RED EVERY NIGHT IF THIS IS THE RESULT!
SUDDENLY...
WHAT'S THAT? WE'VE STOPPED
LOOK!! THAT GIANT HAND! IT'S...IT'S HOLDING US BACK!
SACRÉ BLEU! WHAT IS THAT HORRIBLE CREATURE?
AAAA!!!!!
THE MONSTER IS DRAGGING US DOWN!

ON THE WHARF, THE FISHERMAN KEPT AN ALL NIGHT VIGIL FOR THE MISSING BOAT..
I DON'T UNDERSTAND, FERNANDE! I SAW JACQUES' BOAT! WE PASSED IT COMING IN! THE SEA WAS PERFECTLY CALM!
THERE ARE MANY THINGS IN THE SEA YOU HAVE NEVER DREAMED OF BASILE!
FROM MORNING TILL EARLY EVENING A SEARCH PARTY SCOURED THE INLET...
NOT A TRACE! NOT EVEN A PIECE OF SAIL CLOTH! THEY SEEM TO HAVE BEEN SWALLOWED UP!
IT'S USELESS TO SEARCH FURTHER!
YOU ARE JUST TRYING TO FRIGHTEN US, OLD FOOL! TOMORROW WE GO TO FISH!
LOOK, AGAIN THE MOON IS RED! YOU HAD BETTER STAY ON LAND TOMORROW! BUT IF YOU INSIST ON FISHING, THROW PART OF YOUR CATCH BACK INTO THE SEA!
POOR JACQUES! HIS BOAT MUCH HAVE STRUCK A REEF IN THE INLET, FERNANDE?
JACQUES COULD NAVIGATE THIS INLET BLINDFOLDED! AND HOW IS IT THERE ARE NO BODIES?
FERNANDE'S ADVICE WENT UNHEEDED...
IT WAS A GOOD IDEA TO SEND THE BOATS OUT IN PAIRS, HENRI! THIS WAY ONE CAN HELP THE OTHER OUT!
FERNANDE SHOULD BE IN THE MAD-HOUSE! I WON'T THROW A FISH BACK!
WE HAD A RECORD DAY, BASILE! WE SHOULD THROW PART OF THE CATCH BACK!
JUST AS THEY REACHED THE ROCK-LINED INLET...

THIS IS HOW JACQUES AND HIS MEN DISAPPEARED! WHAT CAN WE DO AGAINST THIS DEVIL BEAST?
AAY!!
FIGHT! GRAB A GAFF HOOK! TRY TO SMASH HIS HEAD!
UNGH! HIS HEAD IS SOLID AS A ROCK!
AGAIN! NAME OF A DEVIL! HIT HIM AGAIN! DON'T STOP OR WE ARE LOST!
ARRRooow
FLUNG FAR FROM THE SPLINTERED BOATS, BASILE, STILL PETRIFIED WITH FRIGHT, WITNESSED A TERRIFYING SIGHT...
WHAT A HELLISH CREATURE! I MUST GET AWAY BEFORE HE DESTROYS ME, TOO!
ARRRR
Roo
SWIMMING LIKE ONE POSSESSED, BASILE NEARED THE WHARF...
MY ARMS ARE LIKE...(GASP)... LEAD! BUT I'M SAFE--SAFE FROM THAT SEA HORROR!


WHAT HAPPENED, BASILE? WHERE ARE THE BOATS?
LATER, FOR QUESTIONS! (GASP)...GET ME TO A FIRE! I'M CHILLED TO THE BONE!

BASILE RELATED THE HARROWING ADVENTURE TO HIS SHOCKED COMRADES...
AND THEN I SAW THE MONSTER WHOSE GIGANTIC HANDS, EACH AS BIG AS A... ROOM, PULLING THE BOATS DOWN! I DID NOT SEE ANY OTHER SURVIVORS!
BUT WHY SHOULD THIS HELL FIEND ATTACK US?


THOSE MONSTERS LIVE IN THE DEEPEST REGIONS OF THE SEA! IF YOU HAD THROW PART OF YOUR CATCH OVERBOARD, HE WOULDN'T HAVE ATTACKED!
MAYBE SOMEONE BESIDES BASILE GOT AWAY! WE'LL LOOK TOMORROW!

TAKE ME WITH YOU! I KNOW WHERE THE MONSTER ATTACKED! I CAN LEAD YOU THERE!
BUT I CANNOT STAY ON LAND WHILE YOU RISK YOUR LIVES!
NO, BASILE! WE KNOW YOU ARE BRAVE, BUT YOU WERE MARKED AS DOOMED! WE CANNOT RISK TAKING YOU ALONG!
I HAVE A LONGBOAT! YOU AND I SHALL GO TOGETHER!

A GRAY, OMINOUS DAWN BROKE OVER JEAN DES PRES...
I NEVER KNEW YOU OWNED THIS, FERNANDE!
A RELIC OF THE OLD DAYS! IT CAME FROM MY FATHER'S WHALING SHIP, THE MYSTIQUE!

SEE, WE DO NOT GO UNARMED! EVERYTHING IS OILED AND SHIPSHAPE!
A HARPOON GUN! I'VE FIRED ONE BEFORE! NOW I WOULD LIKE TO MEET THIS SEA MONSTER!

THE SEARCH CONTINUED FOR HOURS...
AYE, BASILE, AND I SEE THE REST OF THE BOATS TURNING BACK I CAN FEEL A SQUALL RISING!
IT LOOKS LIKE THE MONSTER DIDN'T SPARE ONE OF THEM!
HAD ENOUGH, BASILE? THE BOAT IS HARD TO HANDLE!
FERNANDE! WAIT! LOOK! A HAND COMING OUT OF THE WATER!
HE'S COMING TOWARD US! QUICK, BASILE FIRE!
I WANT THIS HARPOON TO STRIKE HIS BRAIN! HE'S COMING INTO MY SIGHTS!
NOW!
BLAM
A BORN HARPOONER! RIGHT THROUGH THE HEAD!
THIS AVENGES THE DEATHS OF MY SHIPMATES! NEVER AGAIN SHALL WE BE PLAGUED WITH MONSTERS AT JEAN DES PRES!
BUT AS THEY WATCHED THE SINKING MONSTER, A NEW UNEXPECTED HORROR ROSE OFF THEIR BOW!
I WOULD NEVER HAVE BELIEVE THAT SUCH CREATURES EXIST!
BRRRR, I'VE SEEN ENOUGH! LET'S GET BACK! THE SQUALL IS BREAKING OVER US!
AAAAAP
LOOK OUT! IT'S ANOTHER, SEEKING REVENGE!

EEEAARR
STAY BACK, YOU WATERY HELL-FIEND! BACK I SAY!
AFTER CRUSHING THE LIFE OUT OF BASILE, THE CREATURE SHIFTED HIS ATTENTION--

YOU WON'T TAKE ME AS BASILE! FEEL THIS AXE, MONSTER!
JOIN YOUR COMRADE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA!
ARRRO
FERNANDE REMEMBERED NO MORE! THE MERCIFUL SQUALL DROVE HIS BOAT TO LAND...
TWO OF THEM! WE KILLED TWO OF THEM, BUT BASILE WAS CAUGHT! SEE, I HAVE PROOF...
HA HA HA
HE'S HYSTERICAL! GET HIM TO THE BISTRO, QUICKLY!
NOW YOU'LL BELIEVE THERE ARE SEA MONSTERS! I CHOPPED OFF A FINGER BEFORE I KILLED IT... LOOK!
FERNANDE IS STARK RAVING MAD! IT'S JUST PART OF A STRANGE FISH HE CAUGHT!
IF YOU'RE EVER IN JEAN DES PRES, DROP IN TO SEE OLD FERNANDE! HE'LL TELL YOU THE STORY WORD FOR WORD, AND SHOW YOU THE MONSTER'S FINGER!
the End

MASK of HORROR

POP
GURGLE

DO YOU REALIZE WHAT A GREAT DISCOVERY THIS IS, ARCHER? A PLASTIC AS FLEXIBLE AS RUBBER AND STRONG AS STEEL AND TWICE AS USEFUL!
A FORTUNE CAN BE MADE FROM IT! YES, I CAN SEE!

LATER...
WHAT A FABULOUS DISCOVERY THIS IS WITH UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES! THINK OF THE MEDICAL AND MILITARY USES A PLASTIC LIKE THIS CAN BE ADAPTED TO!
A MILLION USES! CASTS, PLATES...BULLET PROOF VESTS... ARMOR...WHY ITS USE IS ENDLESS!

--AND WE HOLD THE PATENT RIGHTS ON IT! ARCHER, OUR FUTURE IS SECURE--DRIVE ON, BRODY!
YES, SIR!

AFTERWARDS INSIDE THE SUMPTUOUS CABOT MANSION...
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TROUBLING ME, ARCHER--AND THAT'S A METHOD OF PROCESSING THE PLASTIC! COME IN AND MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME...
DARLING! YOU'RE HOME EARLY!

HELLO, DEAR! I BROUGHT ARCHER HERE TO IRON OUT SOME BOTTLENECKS IN OUR PROCESS! HOW'S THINGS?
FINE, I GUESS, DARLING--IT'S JUST THAT I WISH YOU'D BE HOME MORE OFTEN!

SOON I WILL, LOUISE! OH, HERE ARE THE NOTES, ARCHER! LET ME KNOW AS SOON AS YOU ELIMINATE THE TIRESOME PROCESS SO THAT WE CAN MAKE IT FASTER!
ALL RIGHT, HENRY! GOOD NIGHT!

LATER IN THE LAB...
THAT POMPOUS FOOL! HE EXPECTS ME TO BE HIS SLAVE! WELL, HE PLAYED RIGHT INTO MY HANDS! THIS FORMULA HE GAVE ME WAS ALL I WANTED!
170

AND HIS WIFE IGNORES ME AS IF I WERE A SERVANT! I'LL SHOW HER!
7

I'VE PLANNED FOR THIS MOMENT! NOW WITH THE COMPLETE FORMULA IN MY HANDS, CABOT IS THROUGH! HE'LL DIE VIOLENTLY-- AND I'LL TAKE OVER EVERYTHING! BECAUSE HERE--HERE IS MY MASTERPIECE!

WITH THIS MASK, I'LL PLAY THE PART OF A FIEND ON THE LOOSE FOR VICTIMS! I'LL KILL RANDOMLY-- THEN STRIKE AT CABOT! NO ONE WILL BE SUSPICIOUS OF MY MOTIVE THEN!

AND SO, A FEW NIGHTS LATER AT A LOVER'S LANE IN A LOCAL PARK...
DID YOU HEAR SOMETHING, FRED?
AW, C'MON, RELAX! DON'T SPOOK ON ME NOW, HONEY!

HA! HA!
ARGH!

AND A SHORT WHILE LATER ON A SIDE STREET...
I THOUGHT I SAW SOMEONE BEHIND ME! UGH! THESE DESERTED STREETS...

WHAT IN-- ARRGH!
YOU'RE VICTIM THREE...JUST A BEG NNING FOR THE GRAND FINALE!

THE NEXT FEW WEEKS SAW TERROR UNLIMITED! THE MONSTER STRUCK EVERYWHERE, BRINGING HORROR INTO THE HEARTS OF A SHOCKED PUBLIC!

JUST LOOK AT TH.S, ARCHER! HOW GHASTLY! ONE'S AFRAID TO SLEEP AT NIGHT!
YES, CABOT, ISN'T ONE?
BUT TONIGHT YOU WILL SLEEP FOREVER!
MANIAC MONSTER ON THE LOOSE

THAT EVENING HENRY CABOT DECIDED TO WALK HOME...
I'LL WAIT UNTIL HE APPROACHES THAT BUILDING, THEN IT WILL BE ALL OVER!

NOW!

SUDDENLY!
WHAT IN-- IT'S HIS WIFE!
HENRY! YOU'RE ON TIME! NOW WE CAN GO TO THE NIGHT CLUB AS YOU HAD SUGGESTED!
WE'LL BE ALONE DEAR! I GAVE BRODY THE NIGHT OFF!

ARCHER RECOILED AND MELTED INTO THE SHADOWS! HIS PLANS HAD BEEN TEMPORARILY STYMIED! BUT NOW, SOME THING URGED HIM ON... ON...
I MUST KILL! I WANT TOO SEE HER AGONIZED FACE! HA! HA!

DIE! DIE!

AND THE KILLER INSTINCT DROVE ARCHER OVER A PATH OF BLOOD THAT ULTIMATELY LED TO CABOT'S MANSION!
I HAVE AN UNCANNY SENSATION THAT SOMEONE IS WATCHING ME! JUST IMAGINATION, I GUESS!

HENRY! THIS TIME YOU'LL SLEEP FOREVER! DON'T LOOK SHOCKED...IT'S ME... ARCHER!
ARCHER! Y-YOU'RE THE FIEND?

YES, HENRY! FOR YEARS YOU'VE HAD EVERYTHING, AND I'VE ALWAYS RUN A POOR SECOND! BUT NO MORE! WHO WOULD THINK THAT THE FIEND WOULD HAVE A REASON TO KILL YOU!
NO! NO! YARGHHHH!

GOODBYE, HENRY! I'LL BE YOUR SUCCESSOR! IT'S IRONIC THAT YOUR OWN INVENTION KILLED YOU IN THE END, DIDN'T IT? WHA--?
HELP! HELP!

HENRY'S WIFE'S SCREAMS ATTRACTED THE ATTENTION OF HER NEIGHBORS WHO SUMMONED THE POLICE, AND--
IT'S THE FIEND! STOP HIM!
TOO BAD I COULDN'T FINISH HER OFF! ...MUST RUN FASTER, OR THEY'LL CATCH ME!

ARCHER RAN AS IF THE VERY DEVILS WERE AFTER HIM...AND WHEN HE REACHED HIS ROOM...
...THEY'LL QUESTION ME, NO DOUBT! YES, I HEAR THEM COMING! HA! HA! I'LL SAY I WAS KNOCKED DOWN BY THE FIEND! THEY'LL NEVER FIND THE PLASTIC! I-I-I'LL--

SHOCKING, ISN'T IT? BUT THE ALMOST LIVING PULSATING PLASTIC LEFT A PERMANENT FACE OF THE FIEND ON YOU! LISTEN, ARCHER, THAT KNOCKING ON THE DOOR...IT'S THE POLICE...
The End

TEAR 'EM APART

ANY CREATURES SO UNBELIEVABLY UGLY DIDN'T DESERVE TO LIVE...!

GREAT SCOTT, CAPTAIN! LOOK AT THAT THING! W-WHAT IS IT?

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE? WHATEVER IT IS- I DON'T WANT TO LIVE IN THE SAME WORLD WITH IT. WE'VE GOT TO KILL IT!

THE STORM STRUCK SUDDENLY! HIGH OVER THE PACIFIC, IT GRIPPED THE TRANS-OCEAN PLANE AND TOSSED IT RECKLESSLY ABOUT! WHEN THE ISLAND APPEARED BELOW, CAPTAIN ROBERT BRONSON DID HIS BEST TO LAND-

KRASH!

SKRAAAM!

IT BEGAN- AS IT ENDED- WITH THE DEATH OF A DOZEN PASSENGERS AND A CREW OF THREE. ONLY THE PILOT AND TWO OTHERS EMERGED FROM THAT SHATTERED WRECKAGE.

CAPTAIN! THE OTHERS--- CAN WE DO ANYTHING FOR THEM? THEY'RE---

THEY'RE DEAD! I'M AFRAID WE MAY AS WELL BE TOO! I DON'T KNOW WHERE WE ARE! ACCORDING TO THE CHARTS THIS ISLAND DOESN'T EXIST!

UNLESS IT'S ONE OF THE VANISHING ISLANDS. OCCASIONALLY AN UNDER-WATER DISTURBANCE HEAVES A PEAK ABOVE THE SURFACE- THEN, AFTER A WHILE- IT SINKS AGAIN!

THEN- WE'LL DROWN! YOU'VE GOT TO THINK OF SOMETHING, YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR US!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION, AND THAT OF MISS STANTON HERE... THIS ISN'T ONE OF HER MOVIES! I DIDN'T ORDER THIS STORM, AND I CAN'T CANCEL IT! TWO OF MY MOTORS CONKED OUT!
SHEEHAN, WHAT HAPPENED? OH... MY MINK! MY POOR MINK!
MINK CAPES ARE THE LEAST OF OUR WORRIES, MISS STANTON! THE OTHERS ARE DEAD! YOU NEED SHELTER! THERE'S A PILE OF ROCKS OVER THERE! CAN YOU MAKE IT?
OF COURSE I CAN MAKE IT, CAPTAIN! 'OU'RE VERY KIND... TO THINK OF ME AT A TIME LIKE THIS!
MARGO STANTON WAS LOVELY, AND CAPTAIN BRONSON WAS HUMAN! HE WANTED TO GET HER AWAY FROM THAT SPOT, FROM THOSE CORPSES! SO, IN A WAY, IT WAS BEAUTY THAT WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT WAS TO HAPPEN!
WAIT A MINUTE, BRONSON! THESE AREN'T JUST ROCKS! THEY'RE HUGE AND CUT TO SHAPE!
I NOTICED! AND THAT'S A BUILDING AHEAD OF US... OR THE REMAINS OF ONE!
IT... IT'S INCREDIBLE... THESE BLOCKS ARE TREMENDOUS! WHO... OR WHAT COULD HAVE PLACED THEM LIKE THIS?
WHO KNOWS? ACCORDING TO THE STORIES THE CONTINENT OF ATLANTIS WAS IN THIS PART OF THE PACIFIC! MAYBE PART OF IT HAS REAPPEARED! LOOK AT THE WEEDS! THAT'S DEEP WATER WEED!
THERE WAS AN EERINESS, A TIMELESS SOMETHING IN THE AIR AT THAT SPOT! BUT THEN... THERE WAS NO TIME TO WONDER!
CAPTAIN! THAT SLAB! IT'S MOVING!
I PROBABLY TOUCHED SOMETHING! SOME SORT OF SPRING, OR BALANCE! AND IT STILL WORKS AFTER ALL THIS TIME... I HATE TO THINK HOW MANY CENTURIES!
SKREEEEEEEEEK...!

THE GREAT MASS RUMBLED, MOVED, SLID UPWARD, AND INSTINCTIVELY TWO MEN MOVED TO PROTECT A WOMAN AS MEN HAVE PROTECTED WOMEN SINCE TIME BEGAN!
T-THERE'S A FLIGHT OF STAIRS WHERE CAN THEY LEAD?
I WISH I KNEW! BUT THERE CAN'T BE ANYTHING TO FEAR DOWN THERE! NOT ANY MORE!
AT LEAST IT'S SHELTER FROM THIS DOWNPOUR! AND I'VE GOT THIS! IT WAS ALL I FOUND IN THE PLANE WORTH SALVAGING! COME ON!
NO! WE CAN'T TAKE MARGO IN THERE! AS HER MANAGER... I FORBID IT! IT MIGHT BE DANGEROUS!
DON'T BE A FOOL! THERE'S MORE DANGER OUT HERE... FROM PNEUMONIA!
THE CAPTAIN IS RIGHT! I'M NOT AFRAID! LET'S DO AS HE SAYS...
THREE PEOPLE DECENDED INTO BLACKNESS! IT WAS SHEEHAN WHO FOUND THE CARVING... BUT THE CAPTAIN DISCOVERED SOMETHING MORE OMINOUS!
IT'S HARD TO PLACE THE ERA OF THESE CARVINGS! THIS MAY BE EVEN OLDER THAN ATLANTIS!
MAYBE! BUT RIGHT NOW THAT DOESN'T CONCERN ME! I'VE JUST REALIZED SOMETHING! A WHILE AGO, WE TOOK SOME TURNS! I THINK WE'RE LOST!
LOST! IN THIS HORRIBLE PLACE! OH, NO!
BRONSON, LOOK!

UGH! WHAT IN PITY'S NAME IS THAT REPULSIVE THING!
I DON'T KNOW! WE'RE PROBABLY THE FIRST HUMAN BEINGS WHO'VE EVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS! GOOD GRIEF! W-WHAT A HORROR! IT TURNS MY STOMACH TO LOOK AT IT!
IT'S GOING BACK, BRONSON! IT WALKS UPRIGHT... LIKE A MAN!
IT'S NOT A MAN! MAYBE ITS REMOTE ANCESTORS WERE! MAYBE MEN TRAPPED IN A PLACE LIKE THIS WOULD EVOLVE INTO SOMETHING LIKE THAT, BUT IT ISN'T A MAN!
YOU SHOULD HAVE SHOT IT! .T HATED US! I COULD FEEL IT! CAPTAIN, DO YOU THINK THAT... THAT FREAK IS A DESCENDANT OF THE PEOPLE OF ATLANTIS?
IT COULD BE! THERE MIGHT BE OTHER ISLANDS ABOVE THE SURFACE WHICH HAVE TUNNELS OR SINK-HOLES LEADING DOWN HERE, SUPPLYING AIR!
BUT I DO KNOW THIS! IF THAT THING SHOWS ITSELF AGAIN... WE KILL IT! A BRAINLESS, DEGENERATE NIGHTMARE LIKE THAT IS BETTER OFF DEAD!
AGREED! WE KILL IT!
THERE WERE HOURS OF SEARCHING FOR A WAY OUT! BUT... HOW DO YOU FIND A WAY OUT OF A MAZE? IN THE END THE HUMANS KNEW THEY WERE BEING FOLLOWED!
IT ISN'T POSSIBLE! THERE CAN'T BE ANYTHING THAT... THAT UGLY!
CAPTAIN!
I SEE IT! STAND STILL! IT... IT'S BEEN PLAYING CAT AND MOUSE WITH US!
¡BAM! ¡BAM! ¡BAM!

SOME OF THE THINGS DIED, BUT THE OTHERS CAME ON... MUTTERING, GROWLING, HATING, WEAPONLESS! BUT THEY HAD TALONS TO CLAW WITH...

IT WAS SOON OVER. THREE HUMANS DIED! AND SO, THEY NEVER KNEW THE IRONY OF THEIR FATE! EVEN, HAD THEY BEEN ABLE TO HEAR, THEY WOULD NOT HAVE UNDERSTOOD THE DROOLING GIBBERISH SOUNDS THAT CAME AFTER!

AAEEIIIIAAGHH...!

THEY ARE DEAD! WHERE COULD SUCH VICIOUS AND DEADLY ANIMALS HAVE COME FROM?

WHAT CAN THEY BE? THEY'RE SO PALE AND SOFT AND ALMOST HAIRLESS ..YET THEY WALKED UPRIGHT LIKE US... **LIKE MEN!**

THE END

UNSPEAKABLY **LOATHSOME** CREATURES DANCE BENEATH A STARLESS SKY... MEN CROUCH IN TERROR BEFORE THE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF **DOOM**... TO KNOW ALL EVIL AND CHAOS IS TO KNOW...

THE BLACKNESS of EVIL

SUDDENLY THE BLACK VOID IS SPLIT BY A CACKLING VOICE--

AS THE DAYS PASS, THE VOICE OF THE DECREPIT HAG GROWS LOUDER AND LOUDER... AND FINALLY ON WALPURGIS NIGHT, THE LUST TO KILL HAS CAPTURED CARL'S TORTURED MIND...

A ROAR, A CLAP OF THUNDER, A SUDDEN STREAK OF LIGHTNING... AND CARL'S WISHES ARE MET!

LIKE PESTILENT SPIRITS FROM A ROTTING CORPSE, THE DEMONS OF WALPURGIS DANCE MADLY ABOUT CARL, URGING HIM ONTO HIS DEED OF DEATH!

THE CLOCKMAKER SINKS TO THE FLOOR--HIS LIFE-BLOOD RAPIDLY EBBS--AND A FEARFUL OATH FALLS FROM HIS LIPS---

JUBILANT AT THE LONG HOURS OF DEPRAVITY BEFORE THEM, THE CREATURES RUSH FROM THE CLOCKMAKER'S SHOP TO HEAR...

WHILE ALL TIME REMAINS SUSPENDED IN THE RAIN-DRENCHED AIR, THE BLACK DEMONS--LED BY THEIR NEW INITIATE IN EVIL--ENGAGE IN A WILD AND MONSTROUS ORGY OF DARKNESS!

IT IS RAINING HEAVILY! PERHAPS WE SHOULD SEEK SHELTER!
THE RAIN CANNOT HARM US! DANCE ON!

BUT AS THE RAIN CONTINUES IT BECOMES A DELUGE, AND...
WE SHALL DROWN HERE! IF TIME IS SUSPENDED--THEN IT WILL RAIN--- FOREVER!
WE MUST FIND SHELTER!

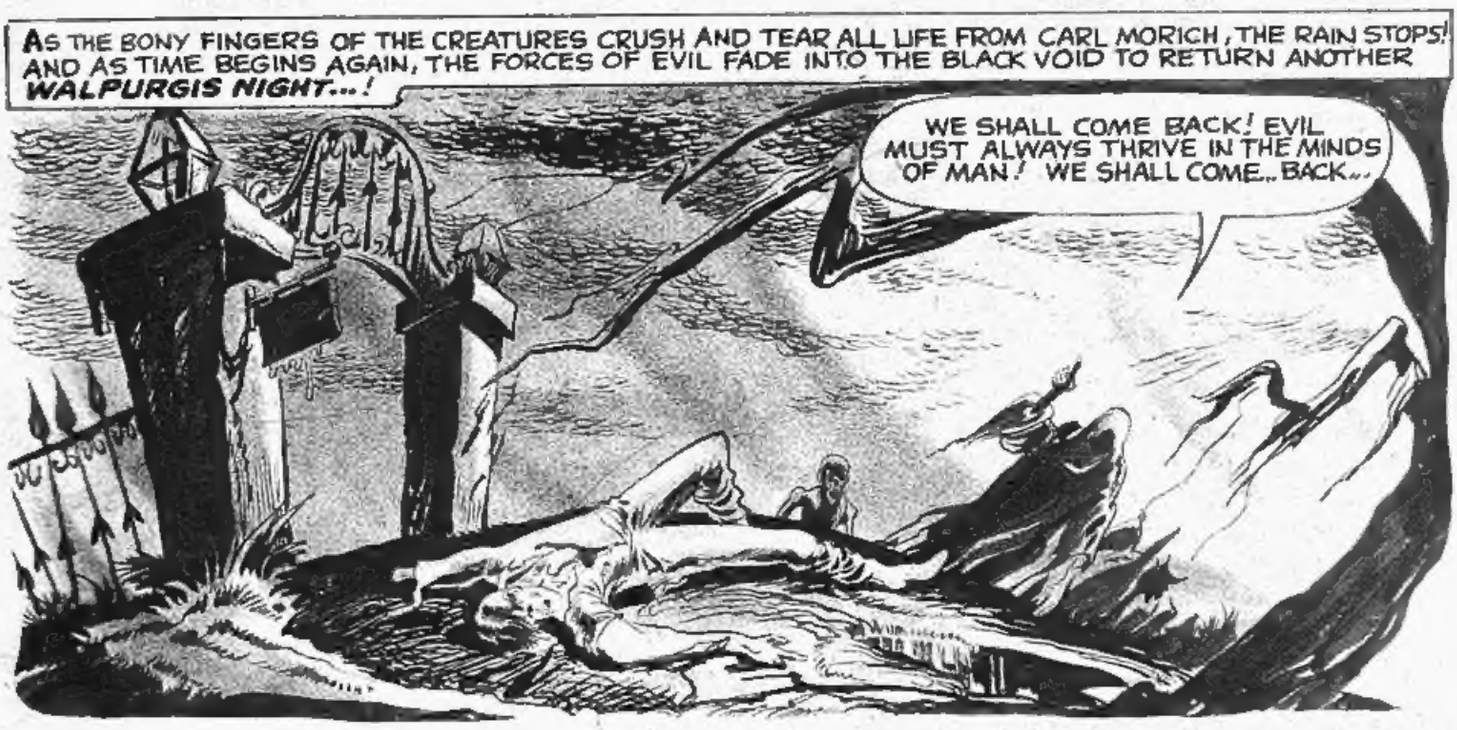
LET US INTO YOUR HOUSES! YOU CAN'T BOLT YOUR DOORS AGAINST US!
THEY FEAR US --THEY WILL NOT LET US IN!
THE WATER! THE WATER!!

FIERCELY--RELENTLESSLY--THE RAIN CONTINUES TO FALL UPON THE TERRIFIED CREATURES --- AND TIME STANDS STILL AND WAITS...
YA-AIEEEE-E!
QUICKLY-- OUR ONLY CHANCE IS TO FLEE TO THE HILLS OUTSIDE THE CITY! OTHERWISE WE WILL DROWN!

WHAT MUST WE DO TO END THIS ETERNAL RAIN--THIS VENGEANCE OF THE HEAVENS??
WE HAVE BEEN TRAPPED BY THE CURSE OF YOUR DEAD MASTER! HIS SPELL MUST BE BROKEN!

HE SAID THAT HIS CURSE SHOULD BE ENDED ONLY WHEN YOU ARE DESTROYED!
YES!!
I--I DON'T REMEMBER! HE -- HE DIDN'T--!

GRIMLY, THE FIENDS OF THE NIGHT TURN ON CARL... AND SEE THE END OF THEIR MISERY!
THEN YOU MUST-- DIE! OUR RACE CANNOT BE DESTROYED IN THE FLOOD!
NO! I HAVE SERVED YOU-- OBEYED YOU-- YOU CAN'T KILL ME!
SEIZE HIM! HE MUST NOT GET AWAY!
NO NO-O-O O-O-O...
ARAGHH!


AS THE BONY FINGERS OF THE CREATURES CRUSH AND TEAR ALL LIFE FROM CARL MORICH, THE RAIN STOPS! AND AS TIME BEGINS AGAIN, THE FORCES OF EVIL FADE INTO THE BLACK VOID TO RETURN ANOTHER WALPURGIS NIGHT...!
WE SHALL COME BACK! EVIL MUST ALWAYS THRIVE IN THE MINDS OF MAN! WE SHALL COME... BACK...

THE CLOCKS ARE MOVING... WE CAN LIVE AGAIN!!
WALPURGIS NIGHT SHALL SOON BE OVER!!

AND IN THE CLOCKMAKING SHOP OF FREDERICK KAFFNER, THE MANY CLOCKS BEGIN TO TICK MERRILY ABOVE THE BODY OF THEIR CREATOR--TICKING CLOSER AND CLOSER TO ANOTHER WALPURGIS NIGHT!
TICK... TICK... TICK
THE END

FACTS FOR GHOULS

I'M JUST RETURNING FROM THE APOTHECARY, WHERE I LEARNED QUITE A BIT ABOUT CURES! --YOU THERE! STOP SNICKERING! NOW LISTEN! ...DID YOU KNOW THAT---

IRISH HEALING STONES

WORK WONDERS FOR MINOR ACHES AND PAINS ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD EXCEPT- *ENGLAND!*

(AND THAT AINT BLARNEY!)

NOT TOO LONG AGO, ***A GLASS CANE***

HUNG FROM A CEILING, PROTECTED ANY HOUSE FROM ILLNESS and BAD LUCK! FAILURE TO CLEAN THE ROD EACH DAY, RESULTED IN DISEASE, BAD LUCK and EVEN DEATH!

(HEY, DID YOU CLEAN YOUR ROD TODAY?.... HMM?)

--AN OLD WIVES CURE FOR PAINFUL ARTHRITIS WAS TO RUB A GOLD WATCH OVER THE SWOLLEN AREA, *... AND THE PAIN STOPPED!* **TODAY**, DOCTORS GIVE ARTHRITIS PATIENTS GOLD INJECTIONS TO STOP THE PAIN!

(P.S. NEVER MENTION THIS TO A DOCTOR, HE'LL SEND YOU TO A HEAD SHRINKER.. *.... A JIVARO EXPERT!*)

WEIRD FACTS
NOW, WHAT MAKES YOU DELIGHTFUL GHOULISH FIENDS THINK I'M PUTTING YOU ON?---DID YOU KNOW THAT UNTIL RECENT TIMES, NO MAN WITH THE NAME OF GEORGE, HAD EVER BEEN HANGED?---THINK I'M SPOOFING YOU?--THEN, CHECK THE RECORD!--AND SPEAKING OF RECORDS, HERE ARE SOME RECIPES TAKEN FROM AN APOTHECARY'S PERSCRIPTION BOOK!
HUMAN SKULLS
REDUCED TO POWDER and MIXED WITH RED WINE WERE RECOMMENDED FOR THE CURING OF EPILEPSY and DYSENTERY.
... DRINK,--ANYONE?
COFFIN RINGS
WHEN DUG OUT OF A GRAVE
... WILL CURE RHEUMATISM!
... DO YOUR BONES HURT?
--HMMMN?
IF ... A FRUIT TREE BLOOMS and FRUITS TWICE IN A SEASON, A MEMBER OF THE FAMILY OWNING THE TREE, WILL DIE BEFORE THE YEAR IS OUT!
.... BE MY GUEST! ENJOY! ENJOY!
TILL NEXT WE MEET.